Chapter 2 Rondo of Rain

*NOTE: SIMPLY PUT, "RONDO" IS A MUSICAL COMPOSITION BUILT ON THE ALTERNATION OF A PRINCIPAL RECURRING THEME AND CONTRASTING EPISODES.

Right now, it's the middle of the rainy season
RECENTLY, ABOUT TEN UMBRELLAS HAVE GONE MISSING ALMOST EVERYDAY FROM INSIDE THE SCHOOL
BE WARNED IF YOU'RE THE ONE BEHIND THESE THEFTS!!
Morning til night, all it does is rain, rain, rain.
WELL THEN, CLASS DISMISSED
STAND
BOW
NEXT IS..
CLUB
I'm Katori Senkou, a 2nd year Middle schooler. I'm part of this school's specialty, the Roman Club
Our club tries to solve the mysterious events that happen at this school

This guy is the Roman Club's Head
HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE VANISHING UMBRELLA INCIDENTS!?
KATORI-KUN!!
"Mysterious events"... is what we call the wonderous and strange things that happen at our schooi
WELL, FOR NOW, LET'S JUST GET IN THE CLUB ROOM
DOESN'T IT SMELL LIKE A MYSTERI-OUS EVENT?
YOU THINK SO?
AWESOME~~~ SEEMS LIKE THE WORK OF SOMEONE TROUBLE-SOME
WHICH MEANS THAT EVERYONE BROUGHT AN UMBRELLA!! SO WHY WOULD ANYONE STEAL AN UMBRELLA!?
EVERYDAY, ALL IT DOES IS RAIN, SO IT MAKES SENSE THAT EVERYONE WOULD USE AN UMBRELLA WHEN COMING TO SCHOOL

AH, WELCOME BACK
IT'S DEFINATELY RELATED TO THIS HILL'S POWERSPOT!!
カネオ
CHIEF, DO YOU WANT SOME COFFEE?
THESE VANISHING UMBRELLA INCIDENTS . THERE'S NO MISTAKING THAT IT'S A MYSTERIOUS EVENT!!
WITH LOTS OF MILK AND SUGAR PLEASE ♡
She's a spirit of the stone that was sealing the powerspot since this school was built
This kid is Koron-chan
YOU FELL ASLEEP HERE AGAIN! REALLY YOU'RE GONNA GET A COLD!!
HERE!! IT'S HOT, SO BE CARE...
HM, YOU WANT TO TRY SOME TOO?
FUL?

HEY... YOU OKAY THERE?
KORON
KYAA!!
IT'S SHOOO HAAAAAWWWWT!!!
*IT'S SO HOT
AHH, KORON!!
BOGEH!!
!!
KORON
CRAP... SHE WAS SPOTTED!!
NO, IT'S MY FAULT
S... SORRY!!

UMM... IS SHE YOUR SISTER?
UHH... YEAH!!
SOME-HOW... SHE'LL BELIEVE THAT?
BY THE WAY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
IN THE RECENT EXAMPLE OF UMBRELLA THEFTS, TODAY, MY UMBRELLA ALSO WENT MISSING
UNTIL THE RAIN STOPS, I WAS WALKING AROUND IN THE SCHOOL
BUT YOU'D BE FINE IF YOU SHARED A FRIEND'S UMBRELLA ..
WASN'T THERE ANYONE TO SHARE IT WITH?
AH...
. . . . . .
HUH? DID I JUST ASK SOME-THING BAD?
SO DOES THAT MEAN, UNTIL THE RAIN STOPS, YOU'LL BE HERE?
EH?
THEN FOLLOW ME! ♡

WHAT IS THIS... AMAZING ROOM..
OH, WELCOME. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COFFEE?
EH? WON'T SENSEI BE MAD IF YOU DRINK COFFEE IN THE CLUB-ROOM?
IT'S FINE! NO WORRIES!!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
EH? OH... I'M TSUKUYO
OKAY!! LET'S PLAY, TSUKUYO! ♡
ALL RIGHT, I'VE MADE A DECISION, KATORI-KUN!! STARTING TOMORROW, DURING OUR FREE PERIODS
WE'LL STAKEOUT THE UMBRELLA LOCKERS EVERYDAY!!
WHAT?
!!
WE'LL FIND OUT THE REASON BEHIND THE DISAPPEARING UMBRELLAS!!
YOU DON'T THINK IT COULD BE A STUDENT'S PRANK?
NO WAY!! IT'S A MYSTERI-OUS EVENT
I SEE

カシャーン
YOU GET IT, KATORI-KUN? STARTING TOMORROW, LET'S DO OUR BEST!!
REALLY!?
DON... DON'T WORRY. I CAN MAKE IT AGAIN
EVEN THOUGH YOU MADE IT REALLY REALLY REALLY WELL...
I'M SORRY
TSUKUYO-CHAN
.....
I LOVE YOU, TSUKUYO!!
TH-THANK YOU SO MUCH
SCHOOL'S ABOUT TO FINISH, SO LET'S HEAD HOME
I'LL LEND YOU MY UM-BRELLA TODAY

HEY, TSUKUYO
YES?
Now that I think about it, Tsukuyo-chan and I are in the same class
BUY TODAY'S LUNCH BREAD FOR US
OKAY
OH, AND THE AFTER SCHOOL CLEANING DUTY... IS OUR GROUP'S TURN, RIGHT? DO IT YOURSELF, OKAY?
SURE
!?
KATORI-KUN
OH, TSUKUYO-CHAN, WE'RE GONNA GO STAKE OUT THE UMBRELLA LOCKERS NOW,
WANT TO COME WITH?
HEY, WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!!
...UMM, KATORI-KUN
THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME BORROW YOUR UMBRELLA YESTER-DAY
AND SAY THANKS TO YOUR SISTER FOR ME PLEASE
YOU THINK YOU CAN USE TSUKUYO WITHOUT ASKING US!?
HEY! TSU-KUYO!!
Y-YES?

YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO DO THINGS WITHOUT OUR PERMISSION!!
HEY, WAIT A...
THEY'RE THE ECCENTRIC GUYS FROM THE ROMAN CLUB!
.....
KATORI-KUN, LET'S GO BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE
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ちょっ
...YES. I'M SORRY
DO YOU UNDER-STAND!?
BUT DON'T LET ANY STUDENTS SPOT YOU WHILE YOU'RE ON WATCH!!
FOR NOW, YOU'LL BE MY SISTER..
DURING CLASS, IT'LL BE YOUR JOB TO KEEP WATCH, KORON-CHAN!! I'M COUNTING ON YOU!!
ALL RIGHT, STARTING TOMORROW, THIS IS WHERE WE'RE GONNA STAKEOUT EVERYDAY DURING OUR BREAKS!
OK!!
ROGER!!

キーンコーンカーンコーン
CRAP! 1ST PERIOD IS STARTING!! WE BETTER BOOK IT, KATORI-KUN!!
1ST PERIOD
THERE ARE NO DISASTERS AT ALL~~
1ST PERIOD
2ND PERIOD
IT FEELS LIKE I'M THE ONLY ONE KEEPING WATCH!!
SORRY, BUT WE CAN'T REALLY GO AROUND SKIPPING CLASS
PERIOD FREE
5TH PERIOD
JEEZ! NOTHING IS HAPPENING!!
WELL, CLASSES SHOULD BE ENDING SOON
FWOMP?
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SFX FWOMP

SFX FWOMP FWOMP FWOMP FWOMP FWOMP FWOMP FWOMP
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!!
KATORI!!!!
HURRY UP, CHIEF!!

AH
KATORI!!!
AH.. KORON-CHAN
I WAS RUSHING
I TOLD YOU NOT TO STAND OUT SO MUCH!!
WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
I HEAR IT'S HIS SISTER
OHHH
EVEN IF A NORMAL PERSON CAN'T SEE IT, I HAVE SECOND SIGHT.
IT'S FINE EVEN YOU COME AFTER IT DISAPPEARS
THE UMBRELLAS! THEY WERE FLYING!!
FINE, I UNDER-STAND
I WAS RUSHING

ARE YOU SERIOUS, KORON!?
I CLEARLY SAW IT WITH THESE EYES!!
10 UMBRELLAS FROM THE UMBRELLA LOCKERS OPENED UP AND FLOATED
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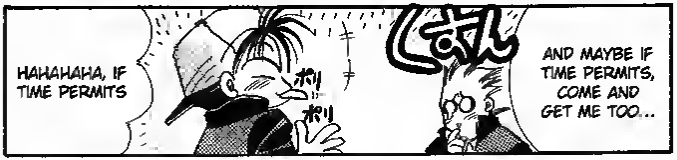
NOT ONLY THAT, ONE BY ONE...
THEY SLOWLY DISAPPEARED WITH A FWOMP
I WAS NERVOUS AND DIDN'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO DO...
UNTIL THE LAST UMBRELLA DISAPPEARED...
はっ
!!
THA-THAT IS AMAZING STUFF!!

JUST THINK ABOUT IT, KATORI-KUN. IT MUST HAVE BEEN A MYSTERIOUS EVENT!!
CHIEF!!
AND YOU'RE HERE TOO, TSUKUYO-CHAN?
OH.. YES, SORRY
HEY, TSUKUYO-CHAN
YES?
THE OTHER TIME, WE BECAME PRETTY FRIENDLY WITH EACH OTHER
SO WHY ARE YOU USING POLITE LANGUAGE WHEN YOU TALK?
USING "GOMEN" INSTEAD OF "SUMIMASEN", AND "YOROSHIKU" INSTEAD OF "ONEGAISHIMASU" IS FINE!!
AFTER ALL, WE'RE IN THE SAME GRADE

ALL RIGHT
.....
SHALL WE PLAY AGAIN?
OKAY ♡
The next day...
WHY ARE ALL THE UMBRELLAS DISAPPEARING!?
THIS IS WHERE YOUR SECOND SIGHT COMES INTO PLAY!!
AND WE ALSO HAVE NO CLUE WHERE THE MISSING UMBRELLAS ARE...
THAT'S IT, KATORI-KUN!!
BY SEEING THE MOMENT WHEN THE UMBRELLA DISAPPEARS, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO GRAB ONTO SOME CLUES!!

KORON-CHAN, YOU'LL STAKEOUT BY THE UMBRELLA LOCKERS AGAIN
OKAY, I'VE DECIDED!!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, LET KATORI-KUN KNOW
OK!!

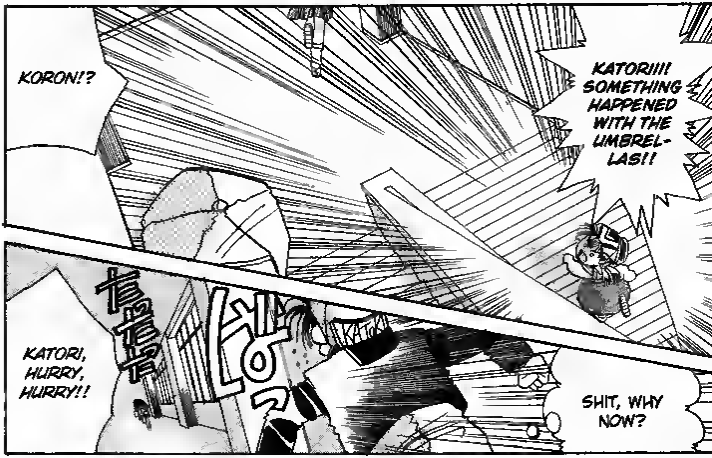

HAHAHAHA, IF TIME PERMITS
AND MAYBE IF TIME PERMITS, COME AND GET ME TOO...

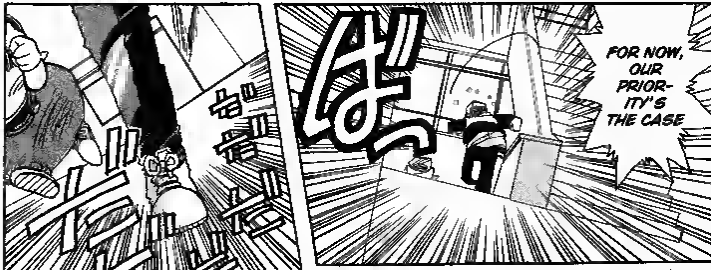
HM? TSUKUYO-CHAN'S FRIENDS?
STILL... I HOPE EVERY-THING GOES WELL
ACTUALLY, SHE CAME TO THE CLUB ROOM..
BUT TSUKUYO WILL COME. YESTERDAY, SHE WENT HOME WITHOUT OUR PERMISSION

I WONDER WHY WE KEEP LETTING HER HANG OUT WITH US
!!
DON'T TELL HER, BUT SHE'S GOT NOTHING GOING FOR HER AT ALL
NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, SHE'LL NEVER DISAGREE. BUT HAVING THAT KIND OF GIRL AROUND IS CONVENIENT
HOW AWFUL!!
AHAHAHA, YEAH! THAT'S SO TRUE!!
TSUKUYO-CHAN... WHY ARE YOU HANGING AROUND SUCH MEAN GIRLS!?
IF TSUKUYO-CHAN HEARD THEM TALKING RIGHT NOW...

TSUKUYO-CHAN, DID YOU... HEAR THAT?
!!
THAT'S WRONG!!
IF THEY WERE REALLY YOUR FRIENDS...
!!
YOU WOULDN'T BE SO FORMAL WITH THEM
...SINCE THEY'RE MY FRIENDS, IT'S FINE
FRIE-NDS?
I DON'T MIND
.....

AH


KORON!?
KATORI!!!! SOMETHING HAPPENED WITH THE UMBRELLAS!!
KATORI, HURRY, HURRY!!
SHIT, WHY NOW?


FOR NOW, OUR PRIORITY'S THE CASE

AHH!?
WH-WHAT THE HECK IS THIS!?
THEY'VE ALREADY STARTED DISAPPEAR-ING——!!
KATORI!! CAN'T YOU SEE SOME-THING?
UHHH, EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT, ALL I SEE IS UMBRELLAS DISAPPEAR-ING...
IF YOU DON'T HURRY, THEY'LL ALL VANISH——!!
AHH!! THE LAST ONE
JUST VAN-ISHED!!
DID YOU GET ANY CLUES!?
ALL THE UMBRELLAS DISAP-PEARED?
THEY'RE ALL GONE!!

I... DON'T SEE IT? WHERE IS IT?
WORN-OUT UMBRELLA? WHERE, WHERE?
SOMEHOW ONLY THE WORN-OUT UM-BRELLA...
EH?
LOOK! IT'S TRYING TO GO OUT!!
THERE'S STILL ONE LEFT OVER!!
THAT UMBRELLA... IT'S NOT NORMAL!!
ONLY KATORI CAN SEE IT!!
AH
WHERE, WHERE? I CAN'T SEE IT
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S THERE!!
OKAY!!
LET'S CHASE IT, KORONI!!
JEEZ, IT'S SO MUCH TROUBLE. IF YOU DO THAT AGAIN,
OH, I'M SORRY
OH RIGHT, YESTEDAY YOU WENT HOME WITHOUT TELLING US?
TAKE CARE OF CLEAN-ING DUTY FOR US
OKAY
LATER, TSU-KUYO

WE'LL JUST QUIT BEING YOUR FRIENDS
DAMMIT, HOW LONG IS THIS THING GONNA GO!!
...!! A MOUNTAIN OF UMBRELLAS!?
...ARE THESE... ALL THE MISSING UMBRELLAS?

IS THAT OLD UMBRELLA REALLY CAUSING ALL THIS TO HAPPEN?
BUT... WHY IS IT..
KATORI!! EVEN IF IT'S A THING, IT HAS A HEART!!
THAT OLD UMBRELLA PROBABLY HAS SOME KIND OF WISH
ANYWAY, LET'S GRAB THAT UMBRELLA!!
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AND THAT'S WHY IT'S DEFINATELY BORROWING THE POWERSPOT'S ENERGY..
PWOMP?
!!
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SHIT——!! I CAN'T GRAB IT, BECAUSE OF ALL THIS MOVING
DOWAA!? THE UMBRELLAS GOT ANGRY!!
I'LL INSTRUCT YOU!!
OKAY
KORON!! FLY AND CATCH THAT OLD UMBRELLA!
COME ON!! GET IT TOGETHER
EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT
AH, TOO MUCH! MORE TO THE RIGHT!!
A LITTLE TO THE LEFT, LEFT!!
DON'T SAY THINGS THAT'LL MAKE ME CRY!!
I CAN'T SEE IT~
HALULU!!
ANYWAY, DON'T GIVE UP AND CATCH IT!!

NOOO, SOMEONE HELP!!
.....
...SHE'S CALLING ME!?

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!! ...BUT SOMEHOW I'M SURE!!
I HEARD KATORI -KUN'S LITTLE SISTER'S VOICE
THIS WAY!!

!!!
ガラララ
TSU-KUYO -CHAN
FLYING!?
HUH, SHE'S...
...TSUKUYO -CHAN!! STEP BACK, IT'S DANGER-OUS!!
SHE SAW ME!!

DOWAAAA
!!
I CAN'T!
RUN AWAY
AU...
YOUR SISTER IS CRYING!!
.....
KO.. RON?
SO DON'T WORRY!!
YOU SEE HER FLYING, RIGHT? KORON ISN'T HUMAN!!
KORON-CHAN.. IS THE FIRST PERSON TO GIVE ME A SINCERE SMILE AT THIS SCHOOL
WHAT A CARELESS REMARK...
...I SEE, SO SHE'S CALLED KORON-CHAN

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF SHE ISN'T HUMAN...
KORON-CHAN IS KORON-CHAN!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO? IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN DO, PLEASE TELL ME!!
.....
AN OLD UMBRELLA IS BORROWING THE POWERSPOT'S ENERGY...
WE NEED TO APPEAL TO IT
IF ONLY WE COULD FIGURE THAT OUT, WE COULD RESOLVE THIS WHOLE THING..
OLD UM-BRELLA?
YEAH, ONLY I CAN SEE THIS WORN-OUT UMBRELLA
KATORI-KUN CAN SEE THE WORN-OUT UMBRELLA?

KATORI-KUN, IS THAT OLD UMBRELLA OPEN?
NNYA? IT'S CLOSED. EVEN IF IT WERE OPENED, I DON'T THINK IT'S USABLE...
I'M SURE THAT OLD UMBRELLA MADE THE OTHER UMBRELLAS DISAPPEAR!!
EH?
BECAUSE IF ALL THE OTHER UMBRELLAS VANISHED IN SCHOOL
...IS THAT WHY IT DID THIS?
THEN EVEN THOUGH IT'S WORN-OUT, IT THOUGHT SOMEONE WOULD USE IT...
!!
SO-SORRY!!
IT'S JUST... SINCE THAT UMBRELLA WAS ALONE FOR SO LONG, IT PROBABLY JUST WANTED TO BE WITH SOMEONE...
CAN I BE USED? ... I JUST WANTED FRIENDS. IS WHAT IT'S SAYING...

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IT'S OKAY...
I KNOW BECAUSE... I'M THE SAME WAY
I'M HERE FOR YOU!!
PLEASE OPEN THAT UMBRELLA!!
KATORI-KUN! I'VE FIGURED OUT WHAT THE UMBRELLA WANTS!!

LEAVE IT TO ME!!
ORYAAAA!!
YOU GOT IT
DEE!!
KYAA
EH!! KATORI-KUN!? YOU'RE NOT GOING TO!?

ふわり
すたっ
APPARENTLY,
HA.. HAHAHA
IT SEEMS LIKE TSUKUYO-CHAN'S REASONING WAS CORRECT...
THE OLD UMBRELLA
APPEARED

ARA? YOU'RE LEAVING?
AH... YES! I JOINED A CLUB!!
CLUB?
NO WAY!!
IF YOU JOIN A CLUB, WE CAN'T USE YOU DURING FREE TIME!!
I SAID I WOULDN'T FORGIVE YOU, DIDN'T I?
IF YOU GO,
WE WON'T LET YOU BE FRIENDS WITH US
!!

MY FRIENDS ARE WAITING FOR ME
!!
KATORI-KUN! YOU'RE MEAN!!
ROM-N CLUB
SOLVING IT ON YOUR OWN IS MEAN!!
YA KNOW, IT WAS ACTUALLY QUITE TOUGH
WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL ME?
MEANIE, MEANIE
!?

...THIS VOICE IS!!
WHO GOES THERE?
U-UM... I'D LIKE TO JOIN YOUR CLUB
TSUKU...
SORRY
!!
BUT PEOPLE WHO USE FORMAL SPEECH CAN'T JOIN OUR CLUB ♡
I'M 2ND YEAR, CLASS 2'S TACHIBANA TSUKUYO
.....
FROM NOW ON, I'M IN YOUR CARE*

HERE TSUKUYO USED "YORO-SHIKU" (MORE INFORMAL) INSTEAD OF "ONEGAISHIMASU" OR "YOROSHIKU ONEGAISHIMASU"

Credits

Translator:	unfoo42
Editors:	muz
	levIN
QC:	Majeh

AT-Translations
#zg-fansubs @ irenzonnet